

DISCUSSION GROUP T16

TURBOMACHINERY BEARINGS and ANNULAR SEALS



Thomas R. (Tom) Davidson is Chief Mechanical Engineer, Global Operations Reliability Support for Linde, Inc., in Pasadena, Texas. His primary responsibility is developing and implementing equipment reliability improvement programs for both rotating and fixed equipment. Mr. Davidson is also responsible for assisting in machinery selection, overhauls, and developing and implementing design improvements to enhance equipment reliability and availability. He has more than 30 years of experience in the petrochemical and process gas industry, in the field of equipment reliability, maintenance management, and turnaround planning and scheduling. Mr. Davidson received a B.S. degree (Mechanical Engineering, 1978) from the University of Houston. He is a member of ASME, NSPE, the Vibration Institute, and he serves on the Turbomachinery Symposium Advisory Committee. Mr. Davidson is also a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.



John K. Whalen is the Technical Director for John Crane Bearings located in TCE's offices in Houston Texas. John is a member of STLE, ASME, and the Vibration Institute and is a past member of the Turbomachinery Symposium Advisory Committee; John is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas. John received his BSME from the Rochester Institute of Technology in 1981. His first engineering job was with Dresser Rand in Wellsville, NY where he was involved in Large Turbine Engineering and Rotordynamics. John joined Centritch Corporation in 1988 and helped form TCE in 1991. At John Crane Bearings John has Engineering responsibility for all three John Crane Bearing companies (John Crane Bearing Technology in Germany, Orion in Wisconsin and TCE in Houston). John Crane Bearings product range includes babbit bearings and seals, labyrinth seals, and related products and services.



Malcolm Leader is the owner of Applied Machinery Dynamics Company. After working for Monsanto Company in Texas City for 9 years, Mr. Leader has run his own turbomachinery consulting business for 24 years. With a focus on providing practical solutions, he specializes in lateral rotordynamics including bearing and seal optimizations as well as steady state and transient torsional analyses. He has analyzed and improved the stability and reliability of over 176 rotating equipment trains. He also offers field diagnostics of machinery problems and advanced vibration testing and analysis. Specialized training courses are also offered. Mr. Leader received his BSME in 1977 and his MSME in 1978 from the University of Virginia.



Michelle Guedry is a Senior Maintenance Specialist with The Dow Chemical Company in Plaquemine, Louisiana. She has spent her career in the Maintenance Technical Services Department supporting rotating equipment issues for various businesses within Dow and its subsidiaries. She is involved in machinery specification, selection, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting. She has a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Louisiana State University (1997).
